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REPORT NO. 88-R-06
AFPEA PROJECT NO. 87-P-130

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AD-A211 564

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PERFORMANCE ORIENTED PACKAGING TESTING OF
CNU-445/E AND CNU-447/E ALUMINUM MAVERICK MISSILE CONTAINER

HQ AFLC/DSTZ
AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5999

July 1989

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ABSTRACT

Aeronautical Systems Division, ASD/SDML, requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to conduct certification and qualification testing on two new aluminum Maverick missile containers, the CNU-445/E and the CNU-447/E (see AFPEA Test Report 88-R-01). Part of the certification testing was the Performance Oriented Packaging (POP) testing on the container design.

The CNU-445/E and CNU-447/E containers were designed and fabricated by AD/YNP, Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5000. The containers are environmentally sealed with a humidity indicator, desiccant port, and a pressure relief valve. Both containers are designed to protect one AGM-65A/B/C/D/E/F/G all-up-round Maverick missile during world-wide shipment, storage, and handling. The containers will also be used for one missile without the guidance unit and for one missile without the guidance unit and the hydraulic actuation system. The CNU-447/E is the Navy version and differs from the CNU-445/E only in some external Navy-specific handling features.

The test plan used for the container was derived from United Nations (UN) Standard (Ref. ICAD 4.3), UN "Transport of Dangerous Goods", and DOD Hazardous Materials Packaging Test Plan.

Results of the tests conducted on one CNU-447/E container were acceptable. The containers did successfully pass the POP tests, as prescribed by the UN test criteria.

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PUBLICATION DATE:

23 JUL 1989

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BACKGROUND: Aeronautical Systems Division, ASD/SDML, requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to conduct certification and qualification testing on two new aluminum Maverick missile containers, the CNU-445/E and the CNU-447/E (see AFPEA Test Report 88-R-01). Part of the certification testing was the Performance Oriented Packaging (POP) testing on the container design. The containers were designed and fabricated by AD/YNP, Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5000.

TEST SPECIMEN

Design: The CNU-445/E and the CNU-447/E are controlled-breathing containers with a pressure relief valve, a humidity indicator, and a desiccant port. Each container is designed to limit the transmission of shocks to the missile to 30 Gs when subjected to the conditions in ASD/SDML Specification CON 320. Fourteen wide-handle latches are designed to allow quick access to the container contents without the use of tools. The missile is attached to the cradle by a forward bracket and an aft strap (see figure 2). The bracket fits over the forward part of the missile and also pins into the missile itself. This bracket is attached to the cradle by two quick release pins. The strap fits between the two sets of fins on the aft end of the AGM-65 missile.

Construction: The container consists of aluminum extrusions for the exterior walls, the skids, and the missile cradle. Sheet aluminum is used for the top and bottom. Rubber pads between the missile and the cradle prevent scratching or scarring of the missile body. Four pound density polyethylene foam provides cushioning between the cradle and the floor and between the missile and the cover of the container. A silicone gasket provides a seal between the container base and the container cover.



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TEST OUTLINE AND TEST EQUIPMENT

TEST PLAN: Tests were conducted in accordance with table I. Test methods and procedures used were as outlined in UN Standard (Ref. ICAD 4.3), UN "Transport of Dangerous Goods", and DOD Hazardous Materials Packaging Test Plan.

TEST CONTAINERS: The tests in this report were performed on a prototype CNU-447/E container (see figure 3). Only one container was used for testing since the tests were severe and it would be too costly to provide a new container for each drop.

TEST LOADS: All tests were conducted using the heaviest missile the container was designed to hold. The test load was an inert missile weighing 675 pounds (see figure 2). A container base loaded to 1121 pounds was also used for test number 2 to simulate the stacking interface and weight of a stacked container. Steel plates and lead weights were used in test number 2 to simulate the stacked load.

TEST SITES: Testing was conducted at AFPEA, HQ AFLC/DSTZ, Building 70, Area C, Wright-Patterson AFB OH. The equipment required for testing was a forklift truck.

TEST PROCEDURES AND RESULTS

UN DROP TEST

Test No. 1: The CNU-447/E prototype container with the 675 pound test load was dropped from a height of 1.2 m as follows:

- a. Flat drop on bottom.
- b. Flat drop on top (see figure 4).
- c. Flat drop on left side (long side).
- d. Flat drop on forward end (short side).
- e. Corner drop on right rear corner of cover (see figure 5).

The container shall not spill its contents.

Results: The container was visually inspected following each drop:

- a. Bottom - several welds securing the skid to the container base broke.

b. Top - middle three latches on the right side of the container became unlatched. These were secured before the testing continued.

c. Left side - no additional visible damage.

d. Forward end - cover deformed and weld cracked at forward right corner of the cover on the right edge. Crack was two inches long (see figure 6).

e. Right rear corner of cover - desiccant port fell off and cover deformed at corner impacted. Cover also deformed on aft end along the flange (see figure 7). Both latches on the aft end became unlatched.

Visual inspection of the inside of the container after testing revealed the missile was still in the cradle. The cradle had become detached from the base of the container (see figure 8). Detachment was caused by foam shear and not adhesive failure (see figure 9). The forward end of the cover was deformed where the missile nose had impacted and the dome shattered. A weld crack was visible on the forward edge of the cover on the inside. The desiccant basket was deformed and weld cracks were found at the aft end of the cover.

The container did not spill its contents. Results of this test are acceptable.

UN STACKING TEST

Test No. 2: At ambient temperature, the container was subjected to a superimposed load of 2230 pounds through the stacking provisions for 24 hours. The container shall not permanently deform.

Results: The container dimensions were checked and no permanent deformation occurred during the stacking test. The results of this test are acceptable.

CONCLUSION

1. The container successfully passed the POP tests, as prescribed by the UN test criteria.

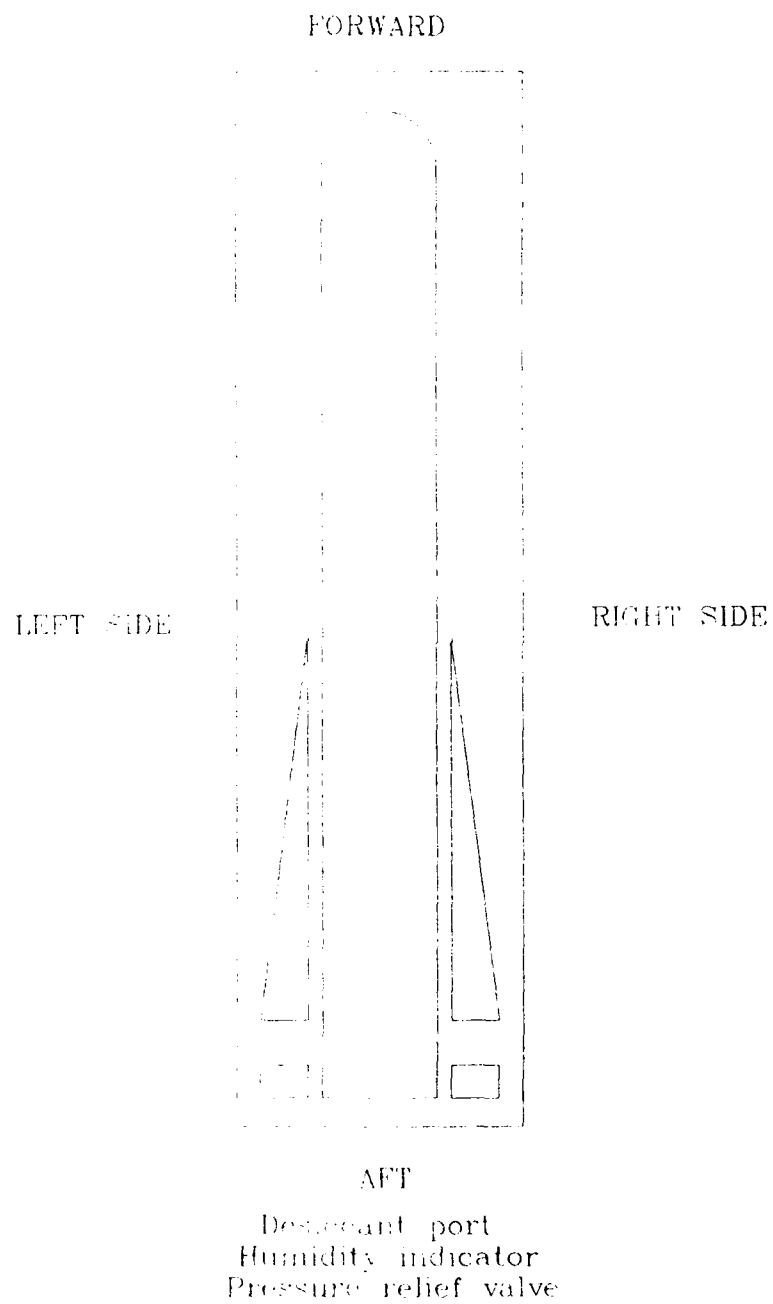


FIGURE 1.

TABLE I. Container Test Plan.

AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY (Container Test Plan)				AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER	
CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D)(INCHES) INTERIOR: EXTERIOR: 108x28.5x30				87-P-130	
WEIGHT (LBS) GROSS: ITEM:		CUBE (CU. FT.)	QUANTITY	DATE	
				7 Dec 88	
ITEM NAME AGM-65 Maverick Missile			MANUFACTURER		
CONTAINER NAME CNU-445/E and CNU-447/E			CONTAINER COST		
PACK DESCRIPTION Aluminum Container					
CONDITIONING Ambient					
TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION	
1.	<u>UN DROP TEST</u> UN "Orange Book", Requirement 9.7.3	Drop container from a height of 1.2 meters (3.94 feet), as required for Packing Group II. The container shall not spill its contents. A different container may be used for each drop.	One each flat drop on the bottom, top, long side, and short side; and a corner drop. Total of 5 drops. Test with heaviest All-up-round (AUR) missile.	Visual inspection	
2.	<u>UN STACKING TEST</u> UN "Orange Book", Requirement 9.7.6	Simulate stacking to a minimum height of 3 m (9.84 ft) for 24 hours. There shall be no permanent deformation.	Test with heaviest AUR.	Visual inspection	
COMMENTS:					
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Figure 2. Missile attachment and test load.

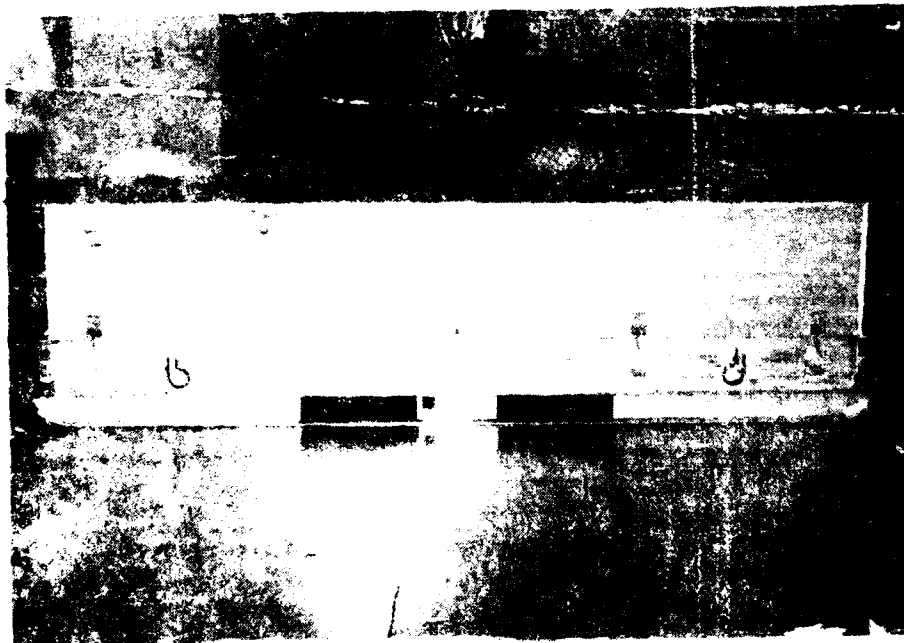


Figure 3. NU-44 /E prototype container.

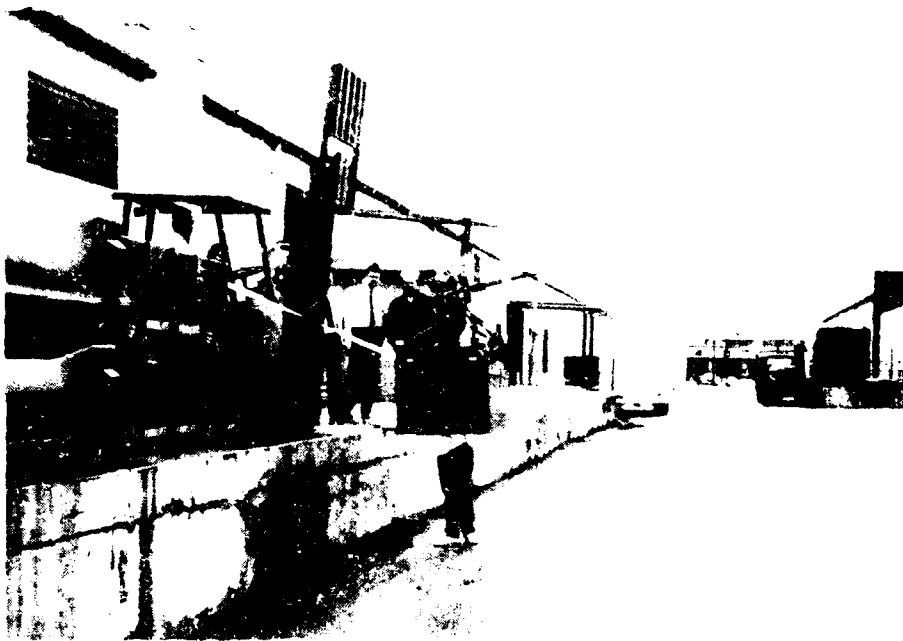


Figure 4. Flat drop on top surface.

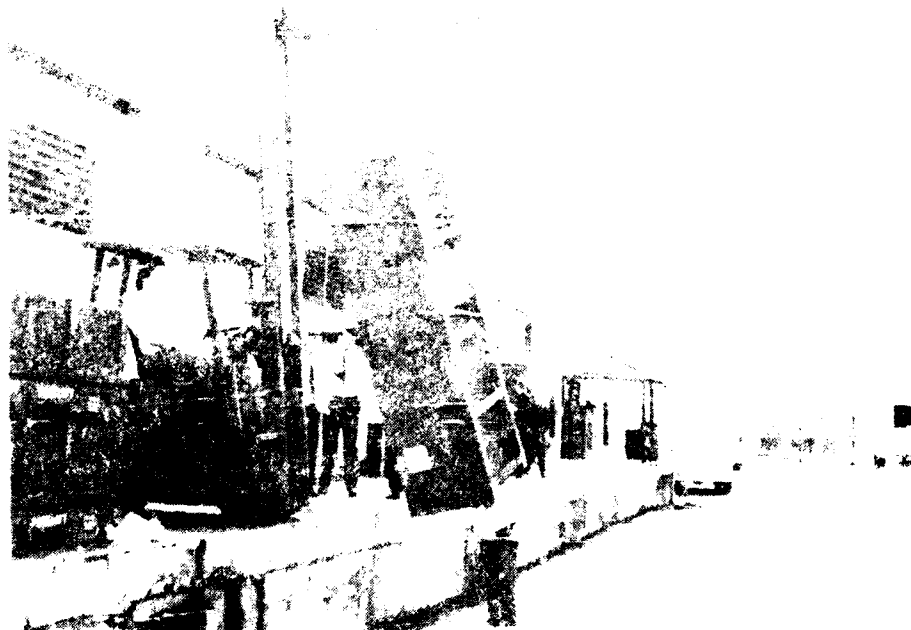
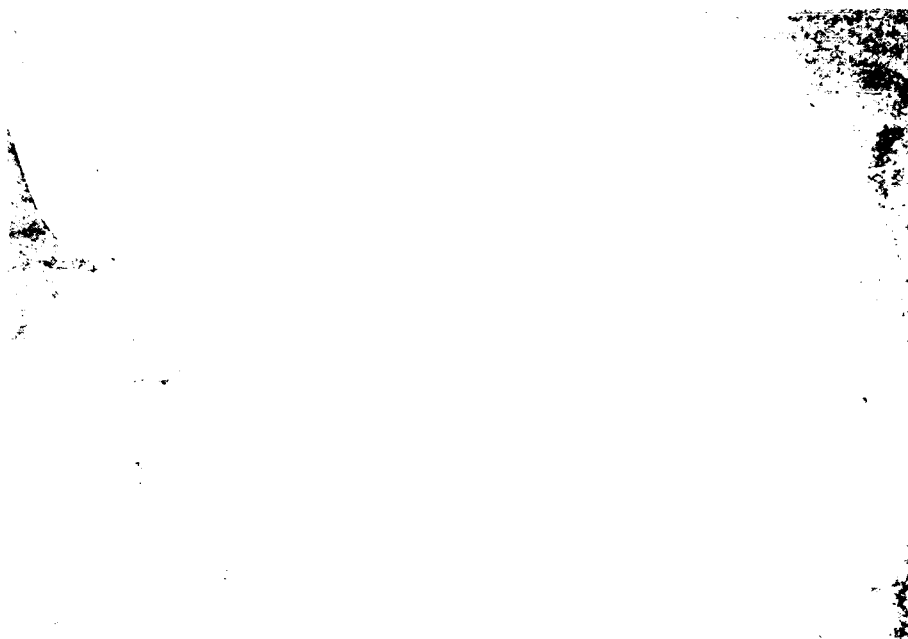


Figure 5. Corner drop on right rear corner of cover.



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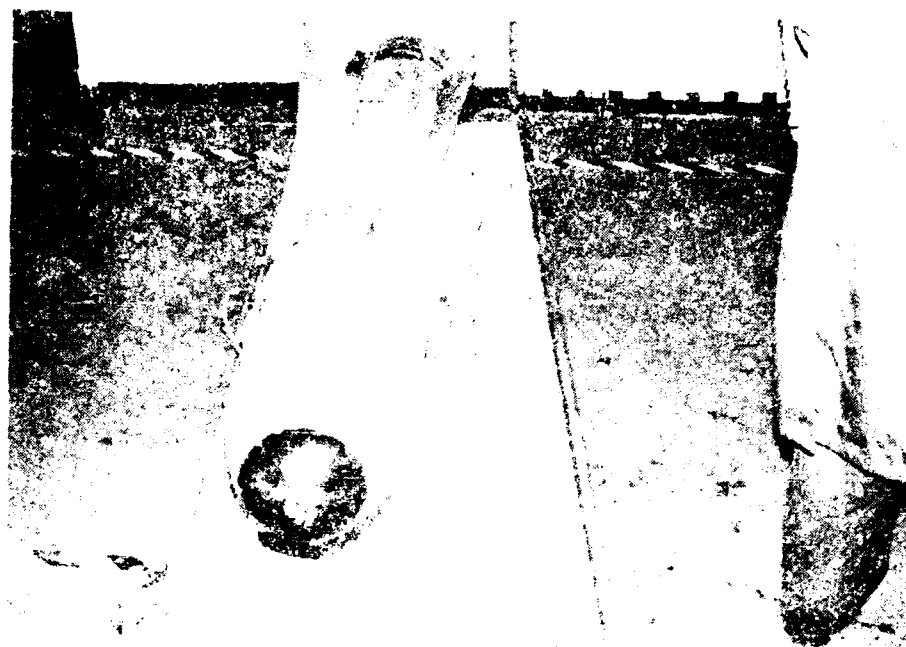


Figure 8. Interior damage after testing.

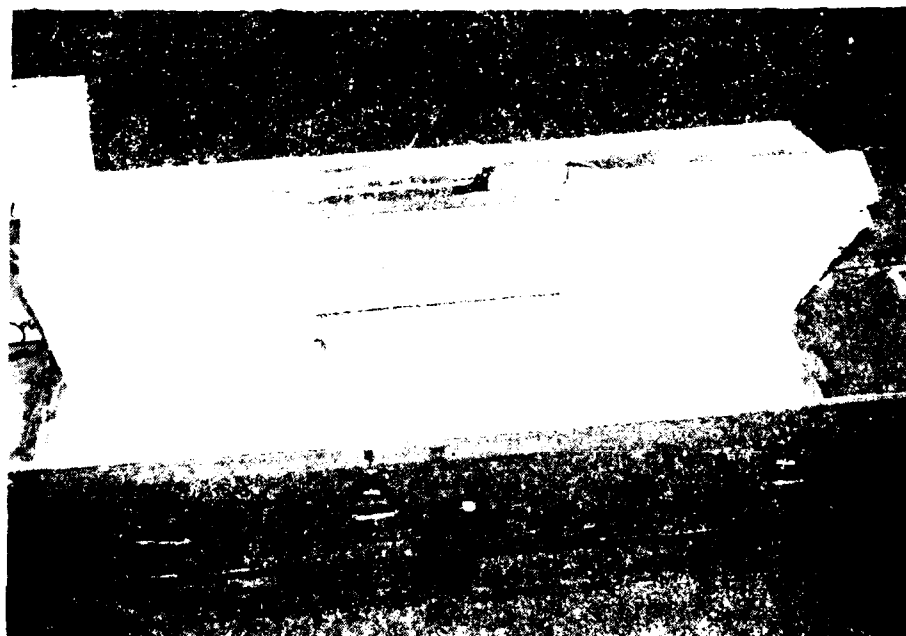


Figure 9. Foam failure in container base.

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

1a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED		1b. RESTRICTIVE MARKINGS	
2a. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY NONE		3. DISTRIBUTION AVAILABILITY OF REPORT Approved for Public Release Distribution Unlimited	
2b. DECLASSIFICATION/DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE		5. MONITORING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER(S)	
4. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER DSTZ 88-R-00		7a. NAME OF MONITORING ORGANIZATION	
6a. NAME OF PERFORMING ORGANIZATION	6b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable)	7b. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code)	
6c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) AFI/USTZ Wright-Patterson AFB Oh 45433-0001		7c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code)	
8a. NAME OF FUNDING SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	8b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable)	9. PROCUREMENT INSTRUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	
8c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code)		10. SOURCE OF FUNDING NUMBERS	
		PROGRAM ELEMENT NO.	PROJECT NO.
		TASK NO.	WORK UNIT ACCESSION NO.
11. TITLE (Include Security Classification) Performance Oriented Packaging Testing of CNU-445/E and CNU-447/E Aluminum Maverick Missile Container			
12. PERSONAL AUTHOR Larry E. Nugent			
13. DATE OF REPORT 1988	14. DATE OF PUBLICATION 1988	15. PAGE COUNT 15	
16. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)			
17. SUBJECT TERMS (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)			
18. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)			
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20. DISTRIBUTION AVAILABILITY STATEMENT UNCLASSIFIED		21. ABSTRACT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Unclassified	
22a. NAME OF FUNDING SPONSORING ORGANIZATION AFI/USTZ		22b. OFFICE SYMBOL (Include Area Code) 512/257-1562	22c. OFFICE SYMBOL HO AFIC/DSTZD

Block 19 Continued:

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